

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6-8 and 10 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended to correct informalities. No new matter is added. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicant's representatives by Examiners Chen and Zhen at the interview held April 20, 2009 are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below, which constitute Applicant's record of the interview.

The Office Action objects to claims 1, 4 and 6. Claim 1 is amended to obviate this objection. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 1, 4 and 6 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 7, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claim 7 is amended to obviate this rejection.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0052796 to Tadokoro et al. (hereinafter "Tadokoro") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,092,088 to Takeda. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action concedes that Tadokoro does not teach plural services for a document, data related to the document and a job flow for the document. The Office Action asserts that Takeda remedies these shortfalls of Tadokoro.

As discussed during the personal interview, the analysis of the Office Action fails for the following reason.

The Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to combine Tadokoro with Takeda to render obvious all of the features recited in claims 1 and 7.

Tadokoro is directed to allowing a user access to a plurality of services through a common access point, these services being directed toward services for a user, for example, travel plans, taxi reservations, and air ticket reservations (see, e.g., Fig. 6 of Tadokoro).

Takeda is directed to enabling a user to designate contents of a process that is to be performed on a document processing apparatus connected to a network, from another terminal on the network (see, e.g., Abstract).

It would not have been predictable to combine the techniques for allowing a user access to a plurality of services as taught by Tadokoro with the designation process of Takeda, as in the manner suggested by the Office Action, because Tadokoro is directed to services such as travel plans for a user. It would not have been predictable to arrange, similar, travel plans for a document. Therefore, it would not have been predictable to combine Tadokoro with Takeda in the manner suggested by the Office Action.

Claim 1 recites, a service acquisition unit that acquires plural services for a document available to a user by using user information, claim 7 recites similar as a method step. The Office Action asserts that Tadokoro discloses a service acquisition unit that acquires plural services. As discussed above, these services are for a user and not for a document. The Office Action asserts that Takeda discloses plural services for a document. The services obtained by Tadokoro would not have been services for any document. At least the above features cannot reasonably be considered to have been suggested by the combination of the applied references.

Further, claim 1 recites, the plural services available to the user being determined by the content of a restriction value table expressing restrictions on execution of services for the document and values of the user information now checked against values of the restriction

value table, claim 7 recites similar as method steps. Therefore, claim 1 recites restrictions on execution of services for the document, and also restrictions on the user.

As agreed during the personal interview, the combination of Tadokoro with Takeda would not have suggested a restriction of services for the document and the user. Further, the combination of Tadokoro with Takeda would not have suggested any restriction on a document because Tadokoro would not have suggested documents and Takeda would not have suggested any restriction. Therefore, even if combined, the combination of Tadokoro with Takeda would not have suggested a combination of all of the features recited in claims 1 and 7.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the combination of Tadokoro with Takeda cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested the combinations of all of the features recited in claims 1 and 7. Further, combination of Tadokoro with Takeda cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested the combinations of all of the features recited in claims 4 and 8 for at least the dependence of these claims on allowable base claims, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 4, 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tadokoro in view of Takeda are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tadokoro in view of Takeda further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,851,115 to Cheyer et al. (hereinafter "Cheyer"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

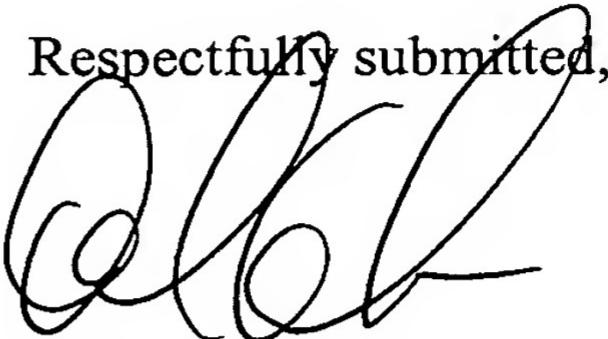
The Office Action concedes that Tadokoro and Takeda do not teach wherein the service acquisition unit determines and acquires a service for the document having minimum restrictions for each of the functions constituting the job flow for the document, and the cooperation instruction information creation unit creates the cooperation instruction

information by associating the respective plural services for the document acquired by the service acquisition unit with the respective functions constituting the job flow. The Office Action asserts that Cheyer remedies these shortfalls of Tadokoro. As argued above, Tadokoro and Takeda cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested the combinations of all of the features recited in claims 1 and 7. Cheyer as applied to claims 1 and 7 does not remedy the above-discussed shortfalls of Tadokoro. Therefore, the combination of Tadokoro with Takeda and Cheyer cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested the combinations of all of the features recited in claims 6 and 10 for at least the dependence of these claims on allowable base claims, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tadokoro in view of Takeda further in view of Cheyer are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 4, 6-8 and 10 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Daniel A. Tanner, III
Registration No. 54,734

JAO:DAT/add

Date: June 30, 2009

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--